

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 are now pending.

Original claims 1-4, 7-8 and 11-12 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Igarashi. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Anticipation under Section 102 of the Patent Act requires that a prior art reference disclose every claim element of the claimed invention. See, e.g., Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc., 806 F.2d 1565, 1574 (Fed. Cir. 1986). While other references may be used to interpret an allegedly anticipating reference, anticipation must be found in a single reference. See, e.g., Studiengesellschaft Kohle, G.m.b.H. v. Dart Indus., Inc., 726 F.2d 724, 726-27 (Fed. Cir. 1984). The absence of any element of the claim from the cited reference negates anticipation. See, e.g., Structural Rubber Prods. Co. v. Park Rubber Co., 749 F.2d 707, 715 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Anticipation is not shown even if the differences between the claims and the prior art reference are insubstantial and the missing elements could be supplied by the knowledge of one skilled in the art. See, e.g., Structural Rubber Prods., 749 F.2d at 716-17.

Igarashi discloses a stator coil fitted to respective teeth or a stator core. From Figure 2 of Igarashi, it appears that each coil is fitted to the respective tooth without any bobbin therefor being provided, as no such bobbin structure is depicted at either the radially inner or radially outer end of the respective stator coils with respect to the stator core. The Examiner apparently considers the cross-hatch layer, depicted in Figure 1 between core 13 and coil 15, as constituting a "bobbin" although this unlabeled part cannot be identified with certainty. It is respectfully submitted,

however, that the skilled artisan would consider from the more detailed depiction of Figure 2 that there is no bobbin in the Igarashi structure.

Even if the unlabeled cross-hatch layer of Figure 1 is considered to constitute a "bobbin", it is respectfully submitted Igarashi does not in any event teach or suggest any bobbin terminal included with the bobbin. In this respect, Igarashi includes a first contact portion at reference numeral 32 representing one of a plurality of recesses formed at the outer periphery 28 of a connecting unit 16 (stator terminal). Recess 32 engages one of the projections 34 of a plurality of conducting members (bus bars) 18-20 for three-phase connection. The projection 34 does not, however, correspond to the second contact portion of the bobbin defined in applicant's claim 1. The conducting members 18-20 include receptacles 37 for receiving respective ends 15a of the phase coil directly. Igarashi therefore does not disclose or in any way suggest bobbins including bobbin terminals for connecting opposite ends of the phase coil and having a second contact portion in contact with first contact portions of a stator housing. It is therefore respectfully submitted that even if Igarashi could be construed as including a bobbin, a bobbin terminal as claimed in claim 1 it would still not be anticipated nor obvious. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims presented are not anticipated by nor obvious from Igarashi.


Claims 5, 6 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igarashi in view of Batten et al. These claims are submitted to be patentable over Igarashi for the reasons advanced above. The Examiner's further reliance on Batten does not overcome the deficiencies of Igarashi with respect to the invention claimed. Indeed, Batten et al do not in any way teach or suggest the provision of bobbins having bobbin terminals as specifically recited in applicant's claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that even if Igarashi could be combined with Batten, the invention claimed would still not be anticipated nor obvious.

KIMURA et al.
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All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Michelle N. Lester
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100